

Recommended Preferred Alternative Announced for 11400 South EIS
Evaluation of Impacts and Inputs from the Public and Cities Key to Selection

SALT LAKE CITY—May 27, 2004—The Utah Department of Transportation presented its recommended preferred alternative for the 11400 South Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) today to the Utah Transportation Commission at a meeting held in Orem, Utah.

Specific improvements of the alternative include:

- Widening 11400 South to a four lanes and add river crossing;
- Add an interchange at 11400 South and I-15;
- Widening 10600 South to six lanes from Redwood Road to Jordan Gateway; and
- Minor intersection improvements along the corridor.

Joe Kammerer, UDOT's project manager for the EIS said the alternative is being recommended because it does the following:

- Best meets mobility needs for the area;
- Solves I-15 transportation issues;
- Provides the infrastructure to support economic development;
- Is cost effective; and
- Promotes improved quality of life for all communities in all four cities in the study area.

The alternative was unanimously preferred by the cities of Draper, Riverton, Sandy and South Jordan, according to resolutions submitted to the project team, and was preferred by residents in the study area that submitted comments on the advanced alternatives.

One of 12 initially proposed alternatives; this recommended preferred alternative was advanced with four other build alternatives for detailed analysis earlier this year.

Kammerer said public involvement and participation was vital in helping to make this recommendation.

"We held numerous small group and neighborhood meetings," he said. "In addition to the meetings, input was gathered from online comment forms, the project information and comment line, and public scoping meetings."

A community input group was formed to facilitate the exchange of ideas between representative members of the community and the project team. The Transportation Ideas Exchange, or TIE, included a mix of residents, business owners, school district representatives, public works representatives, and city economic directors in the study area. The TIE members acted as representatives for their community, provided feedback on information presented from the project team, and helped influence the decisions made by the EIS team.

Prior to submitting the EIS to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) the public will be able to review the document. Public input is encouraged. A public hearing will be held in August. The schedule for this meeting will be posted on the project website udot.utah.gov/11400south.

An EIS is a detailed, written disclosure document that analyzes the impacts of a proposed project on the community and the natural environment.

The 11400 South EIS study area extends from 12300/12600 South to 10600/10400 South and from Bangerter Highway to 700 East.

**Note: Recommended preferred alternative map, alternatives comparison, and contacts for interview resources from the TIE follow this announcement.*

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